

**KAREN BIRD
EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
FEBRUARY 2009**

I would like to nominate Karen Bird for Employee of the Month. Karen has been with the West Valley Animal Shelter for six years.

In the past 12 months the shelter has gone through some radical changes with almost a complete turn over in the staff, a new computer system and the addition of Taylorsville City as part of our service area. During that time I was promoted to supervisor. Knowing that I would have many challenges with a new staff and new responsibilities, Karen made herself available to me at all times. She has been quick to jump in and assist me with advice and taking on some of my work to help me while I have been learning.

During this time Karen implemented a new computer program that went through a year and a half of problems before getting to where we could begin using it. Being a new program meant many problems. At times I thought she may tear her hair out but Karen was diligent and patient in working with the creators of the program as well as MIS to get it working.

Karen has worked on ways to handle the extra workload at the current Animal Shelter and she has made recommendations regarding the new shelter that is being constructed.

In addition to her current workload, Karen implemented a biweekly vaccination clinic at the shelter for low cost vaccinations; this program has been extremely successful. She also started the "Doggie Swim" held at the end of every summer in the West Valley City swimming pool located in the Family Fitness Center.

Thank you.

Submitted by: Nate Beckstead
Community Preservation Department